



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


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GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** November 3, 2015

**TO:** Strict Discipline Academy MAIN Contacts and Superintendents

**FROM:** Mike Radke, Ph.D.   
Director, Office of Field Services

**SUBJECT:** Title I Funding for Strict Discipline Academies

OFS has determined that Strict Discipline Academies (SDAs) need to be funded under Title I, Part A rather than Title I, Part D. This change is effective for the 2015-16 school year and is based on discussions with USED and other offices within the Michigan Department of Education (MDE).

SDAs were established in the School Code by PA 23 of 1999 as public schools. They receive Title II, Part A funding and are eligible for funding under many sections of the Michigan School Aid Act like all other public school academies (PSAs), including foundation grant, Section 31a At Risk, and Section 24. SDAs do not generate any federal funds for Michigan under Title I, Part D because the facilities are not residential (24 hour care). Only residential neglected and delinquent facilities generate funds under Title I, Part D for Michigan.

In 2014-15, SDAs received approximately 20% of Title I, Part D funding, diluting the amount available for residential delinquent facilities that actually generated funding. Facilities operating as residential facilities only to serve delinquent children and youth do not receive Title II, Part A or state resources outlined above. Funding SDAs under Title I, Part A aligns the Title I, Part A (and Title II, Part A) allocation process for all PSAs and eliminates the 20% erosion of allocations to residential facilities that generate Michigan's Title I, Part D funding.

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To eliminate the potential adverse fiscal impact of this change for SDAs transitioning from Title I, Part D to Title I, Part A in 2015-16, OFS is calculating 2015-16 allocations for SDAs under the Title I, Part D formula. Each SDA will receive the same allocation under Title I, Part A as calculated under Title I, Part D. For 2016-17, the Title I, Part A formula (free eligible lunch and enrollment data) will be used to calculate SDA allocations. The Annual Survey Form is no longer required and will not be used to determine allocations for SDAs. SDAs will be subject to the hold harmless guarantee like all other Title I, Part A sub-recipients and funding will be based on the same formula as other PSAs.

This change is timely for SDAs to begin the 2016-17 school improvement planning process as well as the 2015-16 application process. Your assigned OFS regional consultant is aware of this policy change and is ready to assist you with the application process. Please contact your consultant at 517-373-4004.